



STRUCTURE FIRE

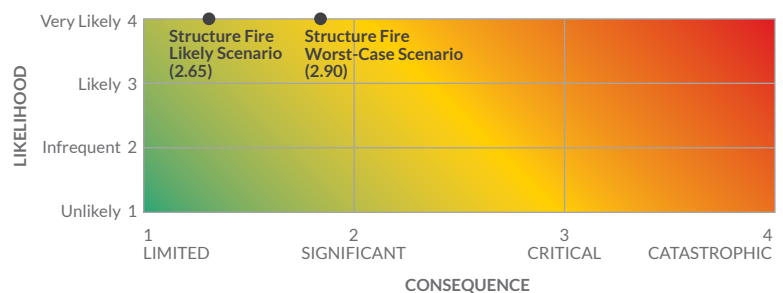


A Structure Fire hazard is an uncontrolled fire involving any building or structure. Structure Fires can occur in a residential, commercial, or industrial setting. Fires can easily spread from one structure to another, and the size of a Structure Fire hazard is constantly evolving.

HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There have been 2,222 Structure Fire responses in Howard County during the reviewed time period (2008-2013). The large majority of Structure Fire hazards in Howard County are residential cooking-related fires. In 1999, a six-alarm fire destroyed multiple businesses in downtown Ellicott City. The fire took several hours to contain and caused over \$1 million in damage.

RISK MATRIX



WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected **30%+ Annual Likelihood** of a Structure Fire hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Structure Fire hazard scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited**. In the worst-case scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited-Significant**.

LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW		
Future Likelihood	Very Likely 30%+ chance of annual occurrence	
Impact	MOST-LIKELY	WORST-CASE
	Limited	Limited-Significant
Risk Score	2.65	2.90
Risk Ranking (High to Low)	Ranked #5 of 16 man-made hazards.	

DID YOU KNOW?

- Fires may affect vacant structures, residential homes, or highly populated commercial areas or apartment buildings.
- Home fire deaths in the United States have dropped 53 percent since 1977.
- Common temperatures in house fires in modern homes can reach up to 2000 degrees Fahrenheit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment readyhoco.com/hazards
- U.S. Fire Administration usfa.fema.gov/data/statistics
- National Fire Protection Association, nfpa.org
- Ready.gov ready.gov/home-fires

STRUCTURE FIRE IMPACT

Where no Worst-Case bar is visible, Worst-Case impact is equivalent to Likely Impact

